

REMARKS:

The Examiner presented rejections to the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), which are overcome by the arguments presented herein. The Examiner cited as prior art references four U.S. patents to Olivier et al. numbered 5,391,617 (hereinafter '617), 5,451,630 (hereinafter '630), 5,451,636 (hereinafter '636), and 5,837,773 (hereinafter '773).

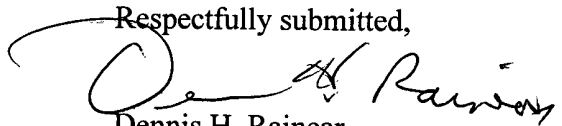
The prior art references cited by the Examiner differ from the present invention in at least one way. Namely, final provision of Claim 5 of the present application stipulates a weight ratio of low ethylene ethylene-propylene polymer to the higher ethylene content ethylene-propylene polymer within the range of about 45/55 to about 10/90 (see line 22, Claim 5). Each of the four references cited by the Examiner provides for a weight ratio of the low ethylene content ethylene-propylene polymer to higher content ethylene-propylene polymer within the range of 80/20 to 50/50. (*See*, ending text Claim 1 of each reference) Thus, one contributing factor in achieving the success of the formulation of the present invention may be attributed to the novel weight ratio range of the polymer elements.

The present invention thereby achieves superior viscosity index performance utilizing a formulation that is distinguishable from the compositions and formulations presented in the disclosures cited by the Examiner, which neither disclose nor suggest the weight ratios of the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner therefore find the application in condition for subsequent allowance.

It is believed that there are no fees associated with this filing. However, in the event the undersigned is mistaken in his calculations, the Commissioner is authorized to debit the appropriate fees from the Deposit Account of the undersigned, No. 05-1372. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-1372.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please contact me at your convenience if you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis H. Rainear

Reg. No. 32,486

Phone: (804) 788-5516

Fax: (804) 788-5519

Email: Dennis_Rainear@Ethyl.com